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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P28643WO Ru/	**FOR FURTHER ACTION**	See Form PCT/PEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2004/009278	International filing date (day/month/year) 18.08.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 05.12.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC

G06F17/30

Applicant

SONY INTERNATIONAL (EUROPE) GMBH

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

   a. ☒ *sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau)* a total of 3 sheets, as follows:

      ☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

      ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

   b. ☐ *(sent to the International Bureau only)* a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

   ☒ Box No. I   Basis of the opinion

   ☐ Box No. II   Priority

   ☐ Box No. III   Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

   ☐ Box No. IV   Lack of unity of invention

   ☒ Box No. V   Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

   ☐ Box No. VI   Certain documents cited

   ☐ Box No. VII   Certain defects in the international application

   ☐ Box No. VIII   Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 05.10.2005	Date of completion of this report 13.12.2005

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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

   ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

   ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
   ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
   ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

   Description, Pages

   1-35   as originally filed

   Claims, Numbers

   1-8   received on 09.11.2005 with letter of 02.11.2005

   Drawings, Sheets

   1/21-21/21   as originally filed

   ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
   ☐ the description, pages
   ☐ the claims, Nos.
   ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
   ☐ the sequence listing *(specify)*:
   ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing *(specify)*:

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
   ☐ the description, pages
   ☐ the claims, Nos.
   ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
   ☐ the sequence listing *(specify)*:
   ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing *(specify)*:

   * *If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."*

Box No. V   Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	1-3, 6-8
	No:	Claims	4-5
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	
	No:	Claims	1-8
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-8
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

Re. Item 1

The following application documents form the basis of the written opinion:

Description, pages:

1-35   as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-8   as filed on 09.11.2005 with letter dated 02.11.2005

Drawings, Sheets:

1/21-21/21   as originally filed

Re. Item V

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. The following documents (D1-D2) are referred to in this communication, the numbering
will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure:

D1: EP-A-1113371 (YOON K.R. ET AL.) 4 July 2001 (2001-07-04)
D2: US-A-5761485 (MUNYAN D.E. ET AL.) 3 June 1998 (1998-06-03)

2. Claims 1 and 4 do not meet the requirements of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject
matter of claim 4 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT and the subject matter of
claim 1 is new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT but not inventive in the sense of Article
33(3) PCT for the following reasons:

2.1 Document D1 discloses (references in parentheses applying to this document) the
following features of claim 4:

- a method for browsing the content of multimedia data to be previewed said content being displayed on a client terminal which holds said multimedia data, characterized by the steps of downloading said multimedia data from the multimedia server to said client terminal via a network link (see abstract: a client/server architecture is the industry standard for facilitating browsing of multimedia data and is thus implicit)
- said multimedia server receiving and processing user commands demanding a change in the speed of browsing and/or in the abstraction level of presentation, in the following referred to as "representation parameters" (see paragraph [0020]: the priority/weight information between semantic elements are the "representation parameters")
- decomposing said multimedia data into non-redundant and redundant, less relevant parts, adapting said representation parameters by online filtering out a certain amount of said redundant, less relevant parts depending on type and/or frequency of said user commands (see paragraph [0032])
- such that the degree of presented details is the higher the lower the speed of presentation and vice versa, and displaying an adapted version of said multimedia data on said client terminal (see paragraph [0052]: the speed of presentation is just an example of a weighting which may be assigned in response to user input; the resulting segments which are viewed correspond to the degree of the presentation)

These are all the features of independent claim 4, thus the subject matter of claim 4 is not new.

2.2 It would be obvious to a person skilled in the art to implement the method of claim 4 as a multimedia preview system. The subject matter of claim 1 is thus new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT but not inventive in the sense of Article 33(3) PCT.

3. Dependent claims 2-3, 5-8 do not appear to contain any additional features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty (Article 33(2) PCT) and/or inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT):

- the additional features of claim 5 are not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT as they are disclosed in D1 (see paragraph [0020]: metadata corresponds to priority/weight information between semantic elements)

- the additional features of claims 6 to 8 are new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT but not inventive in the sense of Article 33(3) PCT (see D1, paragraph [0050], D2 abstract, column 12, lines 3 to 26, column 14, lines 3 to 18, Figure 1: it would be obvious to a person skilled in the art to assign weighting on the basis of factors such as position, intensity, duration and it is a mere application of technology to do so in the context of touch-sensitive display technology)

- the additional features of claim 2-3 are new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT but not inventive in the sense of Article 33(3) PCT as it would be obvious to a person skilled in the art to implement dependent claims 5 to 8 as a multimedia preview system

New claims

1. A multimedia preview system in a client/server-based net-
work environment for browsing the content of requested multi-
media data to be previewed, said content being displayed on a
client terminal (1006) accessing a multimedia server (1002)
which holds said multimedia data,
characterized by
controlling means (602a-c, 800a/b, 900, 1404a-c, 1600) for
adapting the speed of browsing and/or the detail level of
presentation in text and/or image depending on type and/or
frequency of user commands instructing the multimedia preview
system (1000) to browse either quicker or slower through the
content of said multimedia data such that the degree of pre-
sented details is the higher the lower the speed of presenta-
tion and vice versa.

2. A multimedia preview system according to claim 1,
characterized in that
said multimedia preview system (1000) is realized as a video-
on-demand system with an additional video browsing function-
ality for varying the speed and detail level of presentation
depending on type and/or frequency of user commands instruct-
ing the multimedia preview system (1000) change the speed of
browsing such that said detail level is the higher the lower
the speed of presentation and vice versa.

3. A multimedia preview system according to claims 1 or 2,
characterized in that
said controlling means (602a-c, 800a/b, 900, 1404a-c, 1600)
comprises a touch-sensitive display (1502) for navigating
through the multimedia data to be previewed.

4. A method for browsing the content of multimedia data to be
previewed, said content being displayed on a client terminal

(1006) accessing a multimedia server (1002) which holds said
multimedia data,

characterized by the steps of

— downloading (S0) said multimedia data from the multimedia
server (1002) to said client terminal (1006) via a network
link,

— said multimedia server (1002) receiving (S1a) and process-
ing (S1b) user commands demanding a change in the speed of
browsing and/or in the detail level of presentation, in the
following referred to as „representation parameters",

— decomposing (S2) said multimedia data into non-redundant
and redundant, less relevant parts,

— adapting (S3) said representation parameters by online fil-
tering out (S3') a certain amount of said redundant, less
relevant parts depending on type and/or frequency of said
user commands such that the degree of presented details is
the higher the lower the speed of presentation and vice
versa, and

— displaying (S4) an adapted version of said multimedia data
on said client terminal (1006).

5. A method according to claim 4,
characterized by the steps of
— associating (S5a) metadata of any kind allowing users to
identify segmented parts of multimedia data to be previewed
to said multimedia data and
— synchronizing (S5b) said metadata with said multimedia
data.

6. A method according to anyone of the claims 4 or 5,
characterized by
said user commands being movements of a user's finger across
a touch-sensitive display (1502) according to claim 3, the
length of the movement path being directly proportional to

the speed of browsing and/or the detail level of presentation
when displaying said multimedia data.

7. A method according to anyone of the claims 4 or 5,
5   characterized by
said user commands being forces exerted by a user's finger to
the surface of a touch-sensitive display (1502) according to
claim 3, said force being directly proportional to the speed
of browsing and/or the detail level of presentation when dis-
10 playing said multimedia data.

8. A method according to anyone of the claims 4 or 5,
characterized by
said user commands being the duration of forces exerted by a
15 user's finger to the surface of a touch-sensitive display
(1502) according to claim 3, said duration being directly
proportional to the speed of browsing and/or the detail level
of presentation when displaying said multimedia data.